

## REPORT OF THE GILMAN MUSEUM

In 2006 The Gilman Museum Committee was disbanded, and programs and meetings are now under the direct auspices of the Board of Selectmen. The Museum is open by appointment, and the displays will be changed on a regular basis for public viewing.

Of interest is the Museum's collection of buttons. Legend has it that Pearl Gilman's favorite collection was buttons. Her enthusiasm shows by their number, range and value. Undisturbed for over thirty years, today Pearl's collection continues to be refurbished and placed on display cards. While only partially restored, the button collection is available for viewing and continues to be a popular display.

Another popular collection are the extraordinary firearms from the Revolutionary War, the Civil War and WWII and others on display.

The museum clocks, including the Light House Clock and the rare Fromanteel & Clark tall clock, have been recently restored.

During 2006 business meetings and committee meetings have been conducted at the Museum each month with much success.

The Museum had an open house in December in conjunction with Light-Up Night with over 200 visitors. We wish to thank those who assisted us in preparation for the evening festivities and to those who volunteered their services for a successful event.

The Town is obliged to the volunteers who provide their time and services to maintain the high standards necessary to continue the dream of Harold and Pearl Gilman and that is to preserve their collection in the Museum for the enjoyment and benefit of those who visit and to enrich the history and vitality of Alton.

We hope you will visit the Museum. Please contact the Selectmen's office for more information.

Respectfully submitted,

E. Russell Bailey, Town Administrator